optimum utilization of water resrources. The Government of India has established the National Water Development Agency (NWDA) as an Autonomous Society in July, 1982 to carry out the water balance and other studies of the National Perspective Plan. NWDA has completed water balance and prefeasibility studies of all the link proposal. NWDA has identified 30 links for preparation of the feasibility report. Implementation of such water transfer link proposals would depend on various factors like consensus among the basin States regarding the proposed transfer, preparation of detailed project reports and availability of funds etc.

Diversification of West Flowing Water

1054. SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantum of river water flowing westwards as waste/ unused to the Arabian Sea in Karnataka State;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Karnataka State regularly faces water crisis particularly for agriculture and drinking water;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to take steps for the diversification of west flowing water to the deficit/drought hit areas; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) The average annual surface water availability in the west flowing rivers from Tapi to Kanyakumari including the west flowing rivers of Karnataka and inter-State rivers has been assessed as 200.9 Billion Cubic Meter by Central Water Commission. Owing to hilly terrain, most of the water of the rivers flows unused in the Arabian Sea.

(b) to (d) As per the study coducted by Central Water Commission, drought prone areas in the State of Karnataka has been assessed as 57,645.54 Square Kilometer. Ministry of irrigation (now Ministry of Water Resrources) and Central Water Commission have formulated a National Perspective Plan for Water Resources Development which envisages inter linkages among the various

Peninsular rivers and the Himalayan rivers for Transfer of water from presently assessed surplus basins to water deficit basins for the optimum utilization of water resources. The Government of India has estabilished the National Water Development Agency (NWDA) as an Autonomous Society in July 1982 to carry out the water balance and other studies of the National Perspective Plan. Under the Peninsular Component of the National Perspective Plan, NWDA has a proposal of diversion of west flowing rivers to benefit the deficit/drought prone areas of Karnakata through the Bedti-Varda and Netravati-Hemavati Links. The prefeasibility reports of the above links have already been completed by NWDA. As per the prefeasibility reports, the irrigatation benefits to Karnataka State from Bedti-Varda and Netravati-Hemavati links are 60,000 hectare and 34,000 hectare respectively.

Inter-State water disputes

†1055. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of projects are hanging fire due to water distribution dispute among various States of the country;

(b) if so, the names of these projects togetherwith the name of the States to which these projects belong to;

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.